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Facsimile Transmittal Sheet

To: Examiner A. Perez-Daple	**From:** James F. Goedken, Esq.
Company: Patent and Trademark Office	**Date:** April 12, 2004
Fax Number: 703-872-9306	**Number of Pages:** 3
Your Reference Number: 09/707,604	**Senders Reference Number:** 402 P 235
Re: U.S. Application No. 09/707,604 filed November 7, 2000	

Comments/Notes:

Examiner Perez-Daple:

Please find attached draft claims for our interview on April 14, 2004.

I look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

James F. Goedken

195077.1

Application N . 09/707,604
Informal claims for interview scheduled for 4/14/04
Attorney Docket Number 402P235

24. (new) A control system comprising:

a host processor;

a first controller communicatively coupled to the main processor, the first controller being associated with a first network identifier, the first controller including a first module connected to a second module via a first backplane;

a second controller communicatively coupled to the main processor, the second controller being associated with a second network identifier, the second controller including a third module connected to a fourth module via a second backplane; and

a fiber optic cable connecting the first controller and the second controller;

wherein the first controller is programmed to transfer the first network identifier to the second controller via the fiber optic cable and not via either one of the first backplane and the second backplane, the transfer being in response to detecting an error associated with the first controller.

25. (new) A control system comprising:

a host processor;

a first controller communicatively coupled to the main processor, the first controller executing an application program, the first controller storing a plurality of state variables;

a second controller communicatively coupled to the main processor; and

a fiber optic cable connecting the first controller and the second controller;

wherein the first controller is programmed to transfer the application program and the plurality of state variables to the second controller via the fiber optic cable in response to detecting an error associated with the first controller.

Position regarding new claim 24.

The prior art does not show controllers with modules connected to backplanes where a network identifier is transferred for one controller to another controller in

response to detecting an error where the backplanes are not used to transfer the network identifier.

Position regarding new claim 25.

The prior art does not show transfer an application program and a plurality of state variables to a second controller via a fiber optic cable in response to detecting an error.